



State of California  
The Natural Resources Agency  
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)

## NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

<b>PROJECT TITLE</b>	Laytonville Fuel Break		
<b>PROJECT LOCATION</b>	Approximately 1,000-ft northeast of the intersection of State Hwy 101 & Branscomb Road, Laytonville, CA SW1/4 of NE ¼ of Sec. 12, T21N, R15W; MDB & M	<b>COUNTY</b>	Mendocino
<b>LEAD AGENCY</b>	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)		
<b>CONTACT</b>	Louis Sciocchetti, Forester II	<b>PHONE</b>	707-961-1494 (Office)
<b>ADDRESS</b>	CAL FIRE 802 N. Main St. Ft. Bragg, CA 95437	<b>PHONE</b>	707-391-6750 (Cellular)

### PROJECT DESCRIPTION

This project involves utilizing a dozer to blade open an existing ranch road & utilizing hand crews to create a shaded fuel break within 25-ft of either side of the road by thinning small trees & shrubs. The ranch road is single-track width, approximately 1200-ft in length, traverses through grass and oak woodland w/some conifer regeneration, & links the Laytonville-Dos Rios county road with State Highway 101. Slash generated as a result of thinning activity will be lopped and scattered. The presence of this fuel break will assist CAL FIRE and Laytonville Fire Protection District in the control of a wildlife approaching from the north towards the town of Laytonville.

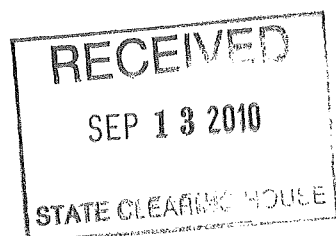
### EXEMPTION STATUS

- ☒ Categorical Exemption Type/Section: Class 4; 15304 Minor Alterations to Land  
☐ Statutory Exemption (state code section):  
☐ Ministerial (§21080(b)(1); 15268)  
☐ Declared Emergency (§21080(b)(3); 15269(a))  
☐ Emergency Project (§21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c))

### REASONS PROJECT IS EXEMPT

The minor soil & vegetation disturbance resulting from this project is compatible with land use practices and values associated with a wildland setting. A nine USGS-quad search of the CNDDDB did not identify any rare, threatened or endangered plant or animal species that will be negatively impacted by this project. A site survey has been made of the area by a trained archaeological surveyor. The CAL FIRE Area Archaeologist has been consulted and has determined that this project is exempt from further archaeological review. Field review by CAL FIRE staff confirmed that no exceptions apply which would preclude the use of a Notice of Exemption for this project. The Department has concluded that no significant environmental impact would occur to aesthetics, agriculture and forestland/timberland, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, geology and soils, greenhouse gas emissions, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, land use planning, mineral resources, noise, population and housing, public services, recreation, transportation/traffic, or to utilities and service systems. Documentation of the environmental review completed by the Department is kept on file at CAL FIRE Mendocino Unit, Resource Management, 17501 N. Highway 101, Willits, CA 95490, Attn. Environmental Coordinator.

### DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING



  
William E. Snyder, Deputy Director Date 9/13/10  
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection